



Director of
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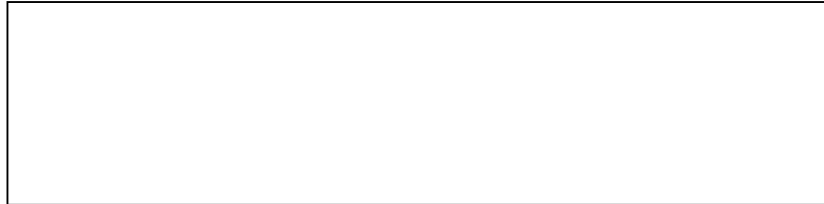
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Iran: Logistic Difficulties

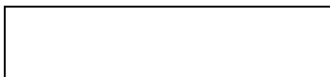
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Iran-Iraq: Countering Subversion Among the Shias

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IRAN: Logistic Difficulties

Iran is experiencing problems with logistics and poor planning as it prepares for its offensive in the south.

On Tuesday Ayatollah Montazeri, Ayatollah Khomeini's heir apparent, publicly accused military commanders in charge of the war of bad planning. He instructed commanders not to squander popular support and to prepare attacks that lead to victory. He suggested that a special corps of military planners be established.

Comment: Montazeri's comments indicate Tehran is becoming concerned that these obstacles could reduce its chances of victory in the coming battle. As more Iranian troops are massed in the southern area, Tehran's logistic difficulties could increase. The main offensive, however, probably will be launched despite these setbacks.

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IRAQ-IRAN: Countering Subversion Among the Shias

Iraq is moving on several fronts to counter Iranian attempts to subvert Iraqi Shias

Since Iran began its series of attacks along the border last month, Radio Tehran has been conducting a major propaganda campaign to subvert Iraq's Shia community. The Iranians are calling on their Iraqi coreligionists, who make up 8 million of the country's 14 million people, to overthrow President Saddam Husayn.

the Iraqis have countered Iran's propaganda campaign by appealing to the Shias' patriotism and Arab pride. They also note that Saddam is personally popular with the Shias and that so far he retains their loyalty. In recent well-publicized tours of Shia areas, Saddam was received enthusiastically.

Comment: The Iranians, who probably underrate the strength of the Iraqi Shias' nationalist sentiment, are likely to increase terrorist attacks in Iraq to coincide with their planned military offensive against Al Basrah. Iran also will continue to aim propaganda at Iraq's Shia community—and at the 75 percent of the military's enlisted ranks composed of Shias.

Iraq's well-trained and efficient security services should be able to contain the Iranian subversive campaign. In the past year they have foiled all of Dawa's attempted terrorist attacks.

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